HELLO AGAIN

<u>VOL. 21 NO. 3</u> <u>MAY – JUN 1990</u>

A PERSONAL NOTE: Many thanks for the help and information so far in my research for revising my Network and Circulating show logs. I am combining the two logs with much more information including dates of ALL shows in circulation. Most network shows will now have exact dates on the air with sponsors, day and time. BUT, to do an effective job, I need to know what is available and more details on shows. I am looking for Radio Guides, Radio Mirrors, etc. I will reimburse any expenses. The project is approaching 300 pages of information.

Steve Hiss of National Old-time Radio Enthusiasts donated a combination radio - micro-

phone to the Friends of Old-time Radio. Many thanks.

Paul Weiss, a very good friend of old-time radio, died on April 28th. His wife, Marcia, is offering his complete collection of radio tapes, magazines, books, etc., for sale. If you are interested, please contact her at 1217 South Potomac St., Baltimore, MD 21224.

CONVENTION 1990: Dates of our next convention are October 18 – 20, 1990 at the Holiday Inn, North, Newark, NJ. Details will be in the next issue of Hello Again.

REMINISCING: From March, 1971; Vol. 2 No. 3: First class mail is 6 cents. I have 80 subscribers...Make sure you put the accurate title and accurate date of the shows in your catalog. Ideally, you should listen to enough of the show to get the correct information. (I have found the same program listed several times in the same catalog under different titles). Also make sure the date is correct. Use a perpetual calendar. Make sure that you use new tapes when trading unless both of you agree differently. 90% of the tapes I have received are Concert or Shamrock and I am beginning to get complaints about Concert. Just heard from Drew Alan Kaplan (DAK Enterprises) who among other things sell reconditioned tape. (Today, their sales catalog is quite impressive.)...New Friends: Larry Kiner has been collecting since 1968 and has about 8000 shows. (Today he has over 7000 reels and puts out about 2 supplements a year.)...Cecil West...Tom Alexander...Bill Natowich...Lyn Taylor...Carroll Weiss..Ray Oden is very interested in Suspense (He originated many shows)...Bill Duck used a computer to list his 1000 shows (One of the first to do so)...Dave Riseman Old Friends: Ed Corcoran and Dick Bertel interview a different radio personality over WTIC every month. Recently they interviewed Goodman Ace and Rosa Rio. Roy Bright plays shows over a local station in Peoria, IL. He was told by the station's lawyers that as long as the station uses a good variety of shows, there would be no legal problem. Joe Hehn has printed one of the most detailed catalogs yet. Eric Klarer, an 8th grader, is now putting out a quarterly called "Reminiscing Time." Fred McFadden has the largest collection of Judy Garland material. Miller Hahn reminds you to clean your reel tape heads consistently. Don Pellow has reactivated his newsletter under the title "Echoes of the Past." Fred Province was awarded a Silver Beaver, the highest award in scouting.

Jack Benny's advice to young entertainers; "Work hard, be lucky and save your money." Carl Erickson sent in the following: During the week of March 6, 1939, almost 35% of available air time was sponsored. During that period 52% of the programs offered were musical shows. News broadcasts made up 8.5% of the broadcasts and drama and variety programs filled in 18% of the time. Within 2 years of the debut of Gang Busters in 1936, the regular announcements and description of wanted criminals following the show had resulted in the apprehension of over 100 miscreants. (We are still doing that with Unsolved Mysteries and America's Most Wanted.)

The NBC chimes are GEC. This is a good way to tell whether a program is too fast or too slow.

COLLECTORS OF THE PAST – UPDATES: Carl Erickson, 490 Fisher St. #501, North Bay, Ontario, Canada P1B 2E1 is retired and spends a lot of time videotaping wildlife. He is active in the theater...George Fowler, 304 Eunice St., Sequim, WA 98383. George is trying

to locate Ralph Becker of California and George Jennings of Arkansas.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: Just a reminder about Bill Bragg's Yesterday USA, the official program of the National Museum of Communications, Irving, Texas. YUSA is the only radio station in the world that broadcasts 24 hours of OTR, 7 days a week. You may find YUSA on Satcom IV, transponder 15, audio subcarrier 6.2. The station is celebrating its 4th year of operation. Bill and 14 OTR enthusiasts around the country supply the shows..."The Shadow" is alive and well in The Dodge Shadow commercial...Himan Brown is planning a new radio series. This fall he plans to distribute 26 half hour episodes of a program called "We, the Living." The series' characters are all over 60 years old...The Massasoit Radio Players of Massasoit Community College in Brockton, MA put on 3 radio plays on May 18th with Fred Foy and Peg Lynch as guests...Three Jack Armstrong films are being planned. Rights have been granted to Bertz Cohen, president of Jack Armstrong Products, by General Mills. The first will start shooting in June. Many promotional items from the radio show may be made available again.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: SPERDVAC Radiogram, Mar; article on Ted Lewis and the Ted Lewis Museum in Circleville, Ohio. Also there is an article about a radio museum in Minnesota called Joe Pavek's Museum of Wonderful Wireless at 3515 Raleigh Ave, St. Louis Park, MN 55426. It contains a wide variety of equipment from the 1910's to the 1950's...Apr; article about Eddy King...May; article about Kate Smith...The Listening Guide Newsletter Apr – Jun; articles on using the computer; salutes to Bob Burchett and Terry Salomonson; more help to the new collector by Terry Salomonson; articles on The Golden Radio Buffs and The Old-time Radio Club (of Buffalo); a 1980 interview with Eve Arden...Through the Horn (NARA Publication), Spring; articles on Mel Blanc, Bob and Ray and The Marx Brothers on Radio...The Illustrated Press; April; article on Audio books...May; Continuation of article on radio during the war years; article on private eyes...Metro Washington OTR Club Newsletter: May – Jun, article on Ted Lewis and the Ted Lewis Museum...Milwaukee Club Newsletter, Apr; article on Mel Blanc...Wavelengths, First quarter, 1990; article on the Veteran Wireless Operators Association...On The Air, May – Jun; articles on Canadian Radio; Himan Brown's comments on radio today.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES: Orson Welles: A Bio-bibliography by Bret Wood, Greenwood Press, 88 Post Rd. West, Westport, CT 06881; 1990; \$39.95. This is the most comprehensive biography yet. It contains a chronological list of Theater, Radio and Film credits. It also contains a large list of books and articles on Welles. Gunsmoke: The Complete History and Analysis of the Legendary Broadcast Series by SuzAnne and Gabor Barabas, McFarland & Company, Bob 611, Jefferson, NC 28640; 832 pages; 1990; \$45. This book leaves nothing out. It contains very detailed radio and tv logs, interviews with many performers, many photographs, much else. I recommend this.

LOGS: Ray Stanich, 173 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has more logs: Electric Theater with Helen Hayes (SASE); Theater USA (SASE); Hollywood Star Time SASE); Good News (60¢).

Ray also has some additions to his Inner Sanctum Log (\$4.50): 11/20/43 (Vision of Death); 12/11/43 (Speak of the Dead); (1944) 3/11 (The Valse Trieste); 4/1 (The Shriveled Head); 4/15 (Walking Skull); 6/3 (Black Angel); 7/15 (Spider and the Lady); 8/12 (Preempted by FDR speech; 9/9 (Boy Butcher); 10/21 (Grave of Maria Chandell); 11/4 (Blind Man's Bluff).

Terry Salomonson, Box 1135, St. Charles, MO 63302 has a new Green Hornet log for \$7.50. It lists the dates and titles of all the shows from September 20, 1940 and the dates of all shows before that.

ORGANIZATIONS AND CONVENTIONS: The National Broadcasters Hall of Fame and Museum has relocated at the Berkeley Carteret Hotel, Ocean Ave., Asbury Park, NJ. It is having its re-grand opening in March. An induction ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, June 3rd...The next annual SPERDVAC Convention is Nov. 9 - 10, 1990 at the Viscount Hotel in Los Angeles, CA...The Kate Smith Foundation is holding its 3rd annual convention in Lake Placid on June 8 - 10, 1990. If you wish to make a tax deductible donation, you may send it to Kate Smith/God Bless America Foundation, 122 Main St., Lake Placid, NY 12946. For further convention information, write Chuck D'Imperio, Box 150, West Oneonta, NY 13861 (1607) 432-1293... The Radio Historical Association of Colorado is holding their 15th Anniversary Convention on June 9. Tentative guest are Sam Edwards and Willard Waterman. Contact RHAC, Box 1908, Englewood, CO 80150 for more information...For fans of Abbott and Costello you can join The Abbott and Costello Fan Club, Box 2084, Toluca Lake, CA 91610...The Emerson Radio Hall of Fame induction ceremonies will be in June in New York. Inductees will be Bob Hope, Dick Clark, Charles Osgood, Kay Kyser, others...The 6th annual National Lum and Abner Society Convention will be held in Mena, Arkansas on June 30th. For information, please send a SASE to Tim Hollis, Rt 3, Box 110, Dora, AL 35062.

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS: Don Aston, 1301 No. Park Ave., Inglewood, CA 90302; has new Jack Benny (2/25/40 – 6/16/40; 10/6/40 – 11/10/40); The Chase (10/12/52 – 12/28/52); Escape (The Coward); new Cloak and Dagger; Mr. I. A. Moto; Red Ryder; Crime Does Not Pay...The Radio Collectors of America bulletin had a complete list of the 52 Sherlock Holmes that have been and are going to be released by Simon and Schuster. If you would like a copy, please send me a SASE. Seven cassettes (14 shows) have been released so far...Richard Sherer, 4105 NW 62 St., Oklahoma City, OK 73112 has the first 15 minutes of each of 4 Robert Q. Lewis Shows from 1955 (5/14; 6/11; 6/18; 7/2). Rosemary Clooney was a regular and does at least one song on each part...Jim Blythe, 941 Redding Rd., Asheboro, NC 27203 has a new catalog. It is for trading only (reels) and contains a wide variety. Jim also needs a source for old radio parts and quarter-track heads...Ed Carr, 216 Shaner St., Boyertown, PA 19512 sent his latest catalog. Among other shows it contains Did Justice Triumph; Crisis; You Are There; Danny Kaye; Barry Gray...Larry Kiner, Box 82, Redmond, WA 98073 sent his latest supplement (#29). Larry has about 7200 reels of shows (over 70,000). Among other shows in this supplement are Life With Luigi; Burns and Allen; Dinah Shore; Rudy Vallee; Johnny Green

THE TAPE DECK: Bob Burnham, Box 2745, Livonia, MI 48151 has a very detailed, 4-page paper on computer viruses. It is especially geared to Macintosh. For a copy send a SASE to Bob or me. It recently appeared in the May issue of the SPERDVAC Radiogram.

NEW ADDRESSES: Louis Lenhard, Star Route 5, Box 275A, Beaufort, SC 29902

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: Charlie Stumpf, 123 West Blaine St., McAdoo. PA 18237, author and radio historian is selling part of his private collection of OTR related memorabilia. All items are one of a kind. Some items, such as radio magazines, scripts, pictures, books are for mail auction with bid deadline set at Aug. 31, 1990. For free list of all items send a large SASE to Charlie...Charles Bohon, Jr., 3301 Dunsmere, Glendale, CA 91206...Suz Anne and Gabe Barabas, 24 Muncy Dr., West Long Branch, NJ 07764. They just completed an 848-page book about Gunsmoke (see Books)...Arthur Anderson, 13 W 13th St. #4G-S, New York, NY 10011. Art, one of our stars of radio and regular attendee at our convention, is still active doing commercials and voice-overs...Mike Maginot, 10322 Strathern St., Sun Valley, CA 91352. Mike and I go back many years...Pat Moran, 8661 Hastings Cir., Huntington Beach, CA 92647...Durell Roth, 2704 Cherry Lane, Austin, TX 78703...William

Ellis, Jr., 715 Ellet St., Martins Ferry, OH 43935...B. Ray Thompson, 4212 Towarda Trail, Knoxville, TN 37919...Harold Feinstein, 2043 Miramar Blvd., South Euclid, OH 44121.. Frederic Berman, 315 East 86th St., #21C, New York, NY 10028...Robert Crue, 4291 Falls Rd., Baltimore, MD 21211.

OLD FRIENDS: Walt Gollender, Box 519, Irvington, NJ 07111, 201 373-6050 will pay generously for any 1950's vintage tv variety shows or radio spots of The Four Aces and Al Alberts. Also Walt is seeking disc jockey interviews, jingles, live concerts on audio, candid photos and public service spots (No Decca recordings). Call collect if you have something. Walt is also looking for Phil Silvers, Studio One and Naked City tv shows, all with child actor Sandy Renda (1957 - 59). Also 27 episodes of tv series "Whispering Smith."...Phil Evans, Box 136 Downtown Station, Bakersfield, CA 93302 is collaborating on a book dealing with the life and career of Frank Trumbauer (1900 - 56), great alto sax player. Phil is looking for any Paul Whiteman radio broadcasts through July 1937 (Frank played with Whiteman from 1927 to 1937; Jean Goldkette before that). Also wants any radio broadcasts, remotes, etc...Phil Harney, 8 Fairfield Ave, Danbury, CT 06810 is looking for Ray Bright. I also have lost touch with him. He was going to write an updated Escape Log some years ago. Can anyone help?..Bruce Ruggles, Box 5001, North Bay, Ontario, Canada P1B 8K9 is looking for videos, The Best of Spike Jones Vol. I and Vol. 2. By mistake I said Stan Freberg in the last issue. He is also looking for the complete version of the Hindenburg disaster by Herb Morrison...Al Onia, 312 Silverthorn Way NW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3B 4E9 is looking for a particular episode of Theater 10:30, a CBC series, which involved communication with dolphins...Art Pierce and Connie Billips are working on a history of Lux Radio Theater and Lux Video Theater. If you can help, write Art at 339 Nassau St., Rome, NY 13440.

Mike Ogden, Box 4301, Tallahassee, FL 32315 is still laboring (after 12 years) on a multi-volume history and log on Orson Welles' work on radio from 1935 to 1946. Mike is still searching for scripts and shows from several early Welles' appearances such as "America's Hour," "American School of the Air." Write Mike if you have any information on Welles' appearances... Francis Rylance, 66 Newton St. #2, Lawrence. MA 01843 wants a list or log of X-1. All the

shows are available on tape.

IN FOND MEMORY: Howard Wiley Mar 20, 89; veteran radio producer-director.. Lillian H. Planer, Apr 20, 86; radio and screenwriter and playwright (Mayor of the Town, Mr. and Mrs. North)...John Henry Faulk, Apr 9, 76; Humorist-folklorist; had weekly show on CBS in 1946...Charles Farrell, May 6, 89; Romantic movie star; co-star of My Little Margie; often on Jack Benny in skits involving his Racquet Club in Palm Springs...Pauline Frederick, May 9, 84; pioneering woman radio and tv journalist. She started broadcasting in 1939 and retired from NBC in 1974.

Write if You Get Work....and Hang by Your thumbs

JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 248-2887. \$10 a year

A BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE TO NORMAN CORVIN

by Lance Hunt

Norman Corwin is eighty years old this menth. The test of time has proved to be the evidence that he has made a rich contribution to the literature of radio.

"He is to American radio what Marlowe was to the Elizabethan stage. To Corwin belongs the credit for not only seeing what might be done with the radio script as an art form but also for doing it in a whole scrics of plays, poetic or humorous, which exhibit the full range of the art at present."

This comment was written by critic Carl Van Doren in a preface to THIRTEEN BY CORWIN, a selection of his radio scripts published in 1942.

Corwin, who could pen a delightful fantasy such as the "Odyssey of Runyon Jones," the universal story of a boy's love for his dog, was represented frequently on the COLUMBIA WORKSHOP and also had his own series including TWENTY SIX BY CORWIN."

His plays depicting the conflict and devastation of World War II still should be required reading for new generations who have no idea what went on in that global disruption. During the war he became one of the most

Authed realing for her send for that who have no idea what went on in that global disruption. During the war he became one of the most effective of war writers. His magnificent WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS, his scripts for AMERICAN IN ENCLAND, and his V-E Day program ON A NOTE OF TRIUMPH, each crystallized the meaning of the hour.

Much of his character's observations made in dialogue have

puted ground I will be listening:

become prophetic.Corwin was sent overseas by CBS to write of Britain at war as he found her. The AMERICAN IN EMGLAND series was designed to stir up Americans about the war.

100

In the first program, LONDON BY CLIPPER written for Joe Julian who plays an average American, Joe has a conversation with a man on a train as the heads toward London.

"You see, I really believe this war is part and parcel of a great revolution which
began long before Munich. It's
bigger than just a world war,"
the man exclaims. Joe hears (and
we do too) that "when people allow
incompetents and blunderers to
manage their affairs, they run up
a big bill in blood and grief and
money." Joe wants to know what to

do about it. The man replies: "Well, by insisting on a new life---by demanding that the same tremendous sacrifice and energy, the same resources of men and material that are put into a successful peace. It staggers the mind to think of what could be done in the way of housing and health and education for the cost of what it takes to run a week of this war."

In April 1944, more than 46yrs. ago Corwin wrote a poignant narrative about his Common Man as a soldier killed in the war. The script was called simply UNTITLED. Corwin's soldier Hank Peters wants to know if his death has made any significant contribution. The dead soldier as narrator wenders aloud: "From my acre of now undis-

I will be tuned to clauses in the contract where the word Democracy appears

And how the freedoms are inflected to a Negro's ear.

I shall listen for a phrase obliging little peoples of the earth:

For Partisans and Jews and Puerto Ricans,

Chinese farmers, miners of tin ore beneath Bolivia;

I shall listen how the words go easy into Russian And the idiom's translated to the

tongue of Spain.
I shall wait and I shall wait in a long and long suspense
For the password that the Peace is setting solidly.

On that day, please to let my mother know Why it had to happen to her boy."

Norman Corwin, who was born May 3, 1910 in Boston, now lives in California.

I wrote this for the May issue of the Buffalo Radio Club's "Illustrated Press". The new editor couldn't find room for it until July which is less than timely for me, a journalist, former English teacher and admirer of Corwin's work. He was the subject of a naner I did, "The Wartime Radio Plays of Norman Corwin" when I worked on my M.Ed at Canisius Colledge. Anyone having conies of the radio tributes to him or articles published I'd annrectate hearing from you at:

Lance Hunt 412 Norwood Ave. Buffalo, N.Y. 14222

How To Avoid Bootleg Radio Shows

Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of certain radio syndicators? "The Shadow" and NAB Legal are in the process of finding out!

Many broadcasters incorrectly believe that broadcast rights to "old-time" radio programs typically have "lapsed" and that the programs are now in the public domain with the passage of time. A few radio syndicators try to perpetuate this myth when pitching sales of what are really "pirated" radio shows.

While, in some cases, ownership rights may have lapsed, in many instances owners of these programs are fully protected by common law, by contract or because they have renewed their copyrights. For self-protection, station owners/operators should take steps to ensure that any airing of vintage radio shows does not infringe upon the lawful rights of the programs' owners.

If you are considering airing programming from a syndicator, ask to see written proof of the distributor's rights to loan, sell, license and/or lease the program for broadcast or other purpose. If the syndicator/distributor cannot establish proof of such rights to the program, or fails to warrant use of the program, there's a good chance no such rights exist. Any broadcast or other use of such programming by your station may subject you to a legal action brought by the lawful owner of the programs in question.

In situations where you simply may have come upon a recording of an old-time radio show, ensuring that no rights to the show currently exist is an important task for you and your station. You should contact the Copyright Office in the Li-

brary of Congress at (202) 707-6850. For a fee, the library can conduct a program owner search. You should make sure the search is broad enough to include rights claimed by authors of the original script (or books, articles, etc. upon which the program was based), as well as by the producers of the original recording. (A similar copyright search might be conducted if there is a dispute or uncertainty as to whether a particular distributor has the rights to distribute the program.)

Should your investigation show that there is a program owner, you should contact the person and:

(1) Ask whether the person, in fact, holds program ownership rights (and make sure that the alleged owner can verify the existence and scope of his or

"...Ask [the syndicator] to see written proof of the distributor's rights to loan, sell, license and/or lease the program for broadcast or other purpose."

her rights — usually by showing a contract or other written instrument which documents ownership); and

(2) Ask if you may broadcast, copy and/or distribute the program (and if he or she agrees, obtain written permission that clearly states the scope of the permitted use).

Obviously, it is important to have an expert, preferably a copyright attorney, assist you — not only in conducting a copyright search but also in negotiating with any copyright owners.

Taking such precautions before striking a deal with a syndicator or airing a program can help ensure that you don't get swept up in the "Dragnet" of copyright infringement.

— Barry Umansky NAB Legal

Keillor re-ups with MPR, 26 new ARCA shows planned

Minnesota Public Radio has announced its much-anticipated plans to produce 26 new segments of Garrison Keillor's American Radio Company of the Air at an estimated cost of \$3.2 million, versus the 1989-90 operating budget of \$2.6 million. This 19% increase is needed, an MPR spokesperson said, to offset higher-than-anticipated expenses resulting from producing the show in New York. MPR also is actively seeking another sponsor for the show, in addition to the American Booksellers' Association, which underwrote ARCA's first season.

MPR and American Public Radio, which delivers ARCA to some 248 members stations, also have decided to stop alternating repeat broadcasts of Keillor's A Prairie Home Companion (which ceased produc-



Garrison Keillo

Broadcasting May 21 1990

tion in 1987) with new American Radio Company of the Air programs. Member stations found the mix confusing and said it prevented the new show from building a loyal following the way Prairie Home Companion did.

The 1991 American Radio Company of the Air season will include 19 new programs broadcast live from an unspecified Broadway theater in New York, four new shows originating from the World Theatre in St. Paul, Minn., and three new shows airing from as-yet unspecified "tour" locations.

Additionally, Keillor will broadcast several radio specials not affiliated with American Radio Company of the Air, which also will be available to member stations. Remaining weeks of the season will be filled with repeats of the shows from last year; Prairie Home Companion repeats will not be aired.

Adding to the confusion: The Saturday following the last episode of this year's American Radio Company of the Air (June 9), Keillor travels to Iowa City, Iowa, for the Fourth Annual Farewell of A Prarie Home Companion. The two-hour special show will be fed at 6 p.m. ET, June 16; stations may broadcast the program live or on the same day, plus one repeat broadcast

1:6

RADIO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO

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PHONE:

SHIRLEY MITCHELL
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RAY ERLINBORN ESTHER GEDDES and others

Registration from 10:30 AM. Activities start at 11:00 AM. Lunch available on site (not included in ticket price). Morning, afternoon and evening activities will include workshops, panels, sound effect demonstrations and recreations. There will be an evening buffet dinner.

For those from out of town, arrangements have been made at The Travel Lodge - Viscount Hotel for a special convention rate of \$39.00 plus tax. The hotel is located at 200 W. 48th Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80216, Phone (303) 296-4000 and is very convenient to the convention site. Airport transportation is available at no charge. RHAC members will provide transportation back and forth to the convention site. Please let us know if you need this service.

SPECIAL PLUS FOR MEMBERS AND CONVENTION ATTENDEES:

Informal reception on Friday evening, June 8th, at a private clubhouse where everyone can meet, talk and mingle with our guests. Food and libation to be provided by members; out of town guests may contribute as desired.

Admission for the convention, including buffet dinner, \$25.00 per person if pre-registered; \$30.00 at the door. Send registrations to:

RHAC, PO Box 1908, Englewood, Colorado 80150
Phone: (303) 761-5135 or (303) 761-4139.

Please reserve ___ Places for the RHAC June 9th Convention in the name of:

NAME

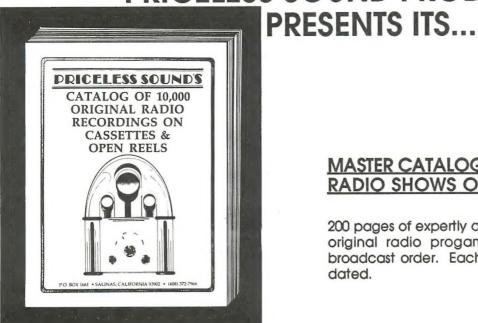
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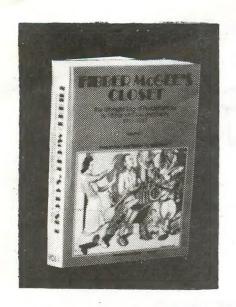
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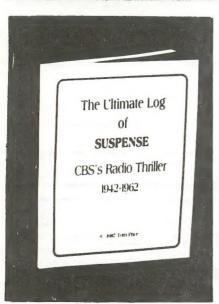
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